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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/090,543

03/01/2002

Peter M. Rigstad

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05/29/2007

3COM CORPORATION

350 CAMPUS DRIVE

MARLBOROUGH, MA 01752-3064

EXAMINER

MOORTHY, ARAVIND K

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2131

MAIL DATE

DELIVERY MODE

05/29/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<b>Office Action Summary</b>	Application No. 10/090,543	Applicant(s) RIGSTAD ET AL.	
	Examiner Aravind K. Moorthy	Art Unit 2131	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

#### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

#### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 12 March 2007.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

#### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24,26-35 and 40-51 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 23,24,26-35 and 40-51 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

#### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 01 March 2002 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

#### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

#### Attachment(s)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)                       | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)   | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

**DETAILED ACTION**

1. This is in response to the amendment filed on 12 March 2007.
2. Claims 23, 24, 26-35 and 40-51 are pending in the application.
3. Claims 23, 24, 26-35 and 40-51 have been rejected.
4. Claims 1-22, 25, 36-39 and 52-63 have been cancelled.

***Response to Amendment***

5. The examiner approves of the amendments made to claims 26 and 40. No new matter has been added.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 23, 24, 26-35 and 40-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.
7. Claims 26 and 40 recite the limitation "said communication interface device" in the preamble. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim. The examiner suggests amending the claims to recite "said network interface device".
8. Independent claims 26 and 40 recite in the first step "allowing a connection to said network to be established when said host device uses said network interface device without the required firewall capability only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to said host device". However, it is unclear to the examiner as to which device

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(network interface device or host device) is allowing a connection to the network. Clarification is required.

9. Independent claims 26 and 40 recite in the final step “performing a configuration integrity check of a software component on a host device, wherein said configuration integrity check is performed before said network connection is allowed, wherein said connection is allowed only if said configuration integrity check passes”. However, it is unclear to the examiner why an integrity check for a network connection would take place after a connection has been allowed to the network.

Any claims not directly addressed are rejected on their virtue of dependency.

***Allowable Subject Matter***

10. Claims 23, 24, 26-35 and 40-51 are allowed.


Prior art does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest “performing a configuration integrity check of a software component on a host device, wherein said configuration integrity check is performed before said network connection is allowed, wherein said connection is allowed only if said configuration integrity check passes”. Prior art does not disclose, teach or fairly suggest step “allowing a connection to said network to be established when said host device uses said network interface device without the required firewall capability only if a firewall device comprising a hardware implemented firewall is coupled to said host device”.


***Conclusion***

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Aravind K. Moorthy whose telephone number is 571-272-3793. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 8:00-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ayaz R. Sheikh can be reached on 571-272-3795. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

Aravind K Moorthy   
May 22, 2007

  
AYAZ SHEIKH  
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